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Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 58th, 59th, 67th and 68th meetings, on 7, 8 and 25 May 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.58, 59, 67 and 68).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 (A/55/682);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/55/768);

(c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/874 and Add.4).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.72

4. At the 68th meeting, on 25 May, the representative of Japan and coordinator of the informal consultations on this item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a

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draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" (A/C.5/55/L.72).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.72 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1339 (2001) of 31 January 2001,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/271 of 15 June 2000,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Observer Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 30 April 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 19.8 million United States dollars, representing 14 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period

[1] A/55/682 and A/55/768.

[2] A/55/874 and Add.4.

ending 30 June 2001, notes that some 16 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Observer Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Observer Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia the amount of 27,896,341 dollars gross (26,175,806 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 816,452 dollars gross (716,517 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 85,289 dollars gross (76,589 dollars net) for the United Nations Logistics Base;

12. *Decides also* to apportion among Member States the amount of 2,324,695 dollars gross (2,181,317 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 July 2001 in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

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[3] A/55/874/Add.4.

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 143,378 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 to 31 July 2001;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 25,571,646 dollars gross (23,994,489 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 2001 to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 2,324,695 dollars gross (2,181,317 dollars net), in accordance with paragraph 12 above and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002, as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Observer Mission beyond 31 July 2001;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,577,157 dollars approved for the period from 1 August 2001 to 30 June 2002;

16. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraphs 12 and 14 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 5,996,479 dollars gross (5,775,479 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 2000, of which 2,324,695 dollars gross (2,181,317 dollars net) pertains to the period from 1 to 31 July 2001 and 3,671,784 dollars gross (3,594,162 dollars net) pertains to the period from 1 August 2001 to 30 June 2002, in accordance with the composition of groups as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989 and adjusted by the Assembly in subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions for the ad hoc apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, the latest of which were resolution 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and decisions 54/456, 54/457 and 54/458 of 23 December 1999 for the period 1998-2000 and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

17. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 5,996,479 dollars gross (5,775,479 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 2000, of which 2,324,695 dollars gross (2,181,317 dollars net) pertains to the period from 1 to 31 July 2001 and 3,671,784 dollars gross (3,594,162 dollars net) pertains to the period from 1 August 2001 to 30 June 2002, shall be set off against their outstanding obligations in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 16 above;

18. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Observer Mission;

20. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be

administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".